

CLASSIFICATION SECRET/CONTROL - U.S. OFFICIALS ONLYCOUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

617566

TOPIC Doeberitz Airfield

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

25 February 1954

REFERENCES

1

PAGES 1 ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

- 25X1 1. Between 16 and 30 January 1954, [redacted] Doeberitz
 25X1 airfield was not occupied. The hangars were closed. The Richthofen Kaserne
 25X1 was occupied by air force soldiers and guarded by a double sentry wearing
 black-bordered blue epaulets. Some lean-to roofs, about 1.70 meters high,
 which sheltered about 20 fuel containers, were observed in a camp in the
 northwestern corner of the field.
- 25X1 2. Between 25 January and 3 February, the Richthofen Kaserne in Doeberitz was
 25X1 apparently heavily occupied by an estimated 2,000 men, including many recruits.
 25X1 The soldiers wore blue epaulets with air force insignia. They received elementary
 25X1 training without weapons in groups of 6 to 8 men. Sometimes they were seen in
 platoons of about 30 men, on the barracks yard and were also given theoretical
 25X1 training in instruction rooms. Further they were trained in various handicrafts
 in workshops fitted with the required machines and tools. In one instruction
 25X1 room [redacted] pictures showing how to extinguish burning aircraft by means
 of foam extinguishers. [redacted]
 25X1 [redacted] the unit was charged with the training of technical ground personnel. [redacted]
- 25X1 9-month training courses were being held at Richthofen Kaserne. Numerous Soviet
 25X1 officers' dependents were quartered in various houses in the barracks area. The
 airfield still remained unoccupied as of the end of January.

25X1 [redacted] Comment. The reported observations confirm previous information on the
 25X1 air technical school of the Twenty-Fourth Air Army which transferred from
 Strausberg to Doeberitz in mid-November 1953. While stationed at Strausberg,
 the school had an estimated personnel strength of 1,200 to 1,500 men. The
 25X1 personnel strength was possibly increased in October 1953 when new recruits
 arrived.

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